



NEWS RELEASE

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DON'T TURN A HAPPY HALLOWEEN INTO A NIGHTMARE

~ Florida Highway Patrol cracks down on impaired drivers ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. –The scariest part of Halloween isn't the costumes or pranks, it's the drunk and/or drugged drivers who pose a deadly threat on our roads. This week, the Florida Highway Patrol again participates in the national campaign *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*. The campaign, running October 31 through November 3, is designed to discourage drunk or drugged individuals from driving through a combination of targeted enforcement and increased visibility of law enforcement on the roadways. Thousands of law enforcement and highway safety agencies across the nation are participating in the campaign.

"There were over 17,000 DUI crashes in Florida last year that resulted in 877 deaths," said Col. David Brierton, director of the Florida Highway Patrol. "Each of these fatalities was 100% preventable. Impaired drivers need to look for alternate ways to get to their destination or the Florida Highway Patrol is prepared to take them to the alternate destination of a jail cell."

To keep safe this Halloween, FHP recommends these tips:

- Plan a safe way to get home before the festivities begin.
- Before drinking, designate a sober driver.
- If you are a designated driver, don't have even one drink.
- If you are impaired, take a taxi, call a sober friend or family member or use public transportation to get home safely.
- Remember, friends don't let friends drive drunk.



Please remember to dial *FHP (*347) from your cellphone to contact FHP to report an aggressive or impaired driver or to request roadside assistance.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov, follow us on Twitter @[FDHSMV](https://twitter.com/FDHSMV) or find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FDHSMV).

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